

Missouri Legislature

Appointments Confirmed.

All the appointments of the governor, made during vacation, were confirmed, with the exception of Thomas E. Mulvihill, to be excise commissioner of St. Louis, and George P. Jones and Theodore Bland, to be members of the St. Louis police board. There is no opposition to the police commissioners, but their names went to the committee on municipal corporations, along with that of Mulvihill, and that committee has not yet submitted a report. It will not hold a meeting until Monday night.

Following is the list of the other appointments made by the governor during vacation and confirmed by the senate:

Speed Mosby, pardon attorney, for a term ending January 1, 1909.

J. A. Hiller of St. Louis county, factory inspector, for a term ending May 12, 1909.

A. C. Moroney, to be election commissioner in St. Louis for a term ending May 13, 1909.

W. L. Watkins of Chillicothe, state supervisor of building and loan associations, for a term ending June 20, 1909.

Robert M. Washburn of Columbia, state dairy commissioner for a term ending May 1, 1907.

Members of the board of managers of the colony for the feeble-minded at Marshall-Dora Hall Stager of St. Joseph and Thomas W. Lacey of Marshall.

W. H. Kennan of Mexico, member of the board of managers for the confederate home.

J. C. Gordon of Lexington, member of the board of managers for the deaf and dumb school at Fulton.

George A. Trigg of Richmond, member of the board of managers for the industrial school for girls at Chillicothe.

Charles M. McAfee of Springfield, trustee for the fruit experimental station at Mountain Grove.

Members of the state board of geology—E. M. Shepard, Springfield; Elias Catch, St. Louis; L. F. Cottel, Edina; Stonewall Pritchett, Webb City.

Members of the state board of health—Doctors R. H. Goodier, Hannibal; W. S. Thompson, Armstrong; John L. Thatcher, Oregon; Frank J. Lutz, St. Louis; J. A. Babcock, Farmington; A. H. Hamel, Desoto; Ira Upshaw, St. Louis; T. F. McDermott, St. Charles.

Members of the board of managers of the Farmington insane asylum—Paul P. Hinchey, De Soto; Dr. C. B. Jones, Poplar Bluff; George A. Hope, St. Louis.

Members of the board of regents for Lincoln Institute—Calvin M. Woodward, St. Louis and A. Rosenthal, Columbia.

Members of the state board of mediation and arbitration—Ford A. Allen, Kansas City, and Joseph Pope, Jefferson City.

Members of the board of regents of the Warrensburg normal—R. S. Harvey of Eldon.

Members of the state board of pharmacy—Adolph Brandtburger, Jefferson City, and Charles Geitner, St. Louis.

Member of the board of managers for the Booneville reform school for boys—J. H. Denny of Glasgow.

HOUSE.

A new tack has been taken to succeed the Wainwright game law. This has assumed the shape of petitions, some thirty-five of which came into house Thursday, with others in storage, asking for legislation permitting the shipment and sale of game.

Representative Paul has introduced a bill, the purpose of which is to stop delay in the settlement of damages awarded claimants against railroad companies for the killing of live stock. The measure provides that in cases where there is an agreement as to the amount of damage the company must pay such claim within thirty days after the agreement is reached.

Representative Groff has introduced a bill making wife-abandonment or the abandonment of children under 12 years of age a felony punishable by a term of three years in the penitentiary.

Representative Raney offers a bill in which he wants the office of inspector of automatic couplers to be created, the commission to make the appointment.

Representative Pemberton has introduced a bill which tells who shall not be permitted to engage in the dramsop business. It would retire politicians from that business or retire saloon men from politics, and in a like way treat office holders.

State Superintendent of Insurance Vandiver made a statement of the collections of his department for the past two years. The collections in 1905 were \$54,430.60 and in 1906 they footed up \$59,958.55, a gain for the past year of \$4,627.95. The total collections for the two years amount to \$113,489.15.

Senator Major, of Howard introduced the first "Jim Crow" law that was presented to the Missouri senate. Such bills have been in the House for years, and every session the vote on them has shown a gain over the preceding session.

Representative Droste of St. Louis introduced a bill for the appropriation of \$5000 with which to purchase 5000 copies of Robert Carter Powell's "Key to repealed and amended sections of the Revised Statutes of Missouri," the books, if purchased, to be distributed among the several counties.

Representative Butts introduced a memorial petitioning congress to establish a national park at Hahatonka, in Camden county.

The resolution to place the house on record as pledging itself to appropriate for the restoration of the burned buildings at the colony for the feeble-minded \$70,000 was called up Thursday by Representative Burch, who spoke for its adoption. He explained the pressing need of some guarantee that the money would be forthcoming. The inmates of the place were suffering, he said.

Representative Chancellor, opposed the resolution, declaring it a scheme "to railroad through an appropriation." The resolution was adopted. The institution is asking for \$85,500, and the action taken is practically a guarantee that it will receive at least \$70,000 of that amount.

SENATE.

At the meeting of the senate railroad committee Friday, a public hearing on the 2-cent-rate bills was set for next Wednesday evening. A public hearing on the maximum freight rate bill was set for Monday evening, January 28, in the hall of house of representatives. Attorney General Hadley will deliver an address on the maximum freight-rate bill.

The committee took up Bradley's anti-pass bill. The author of it was present and urged that it be reported favorably at once. Col. William H. Phelps, of the Missouri Pacific, asked the committee to postpone reporting the bill until after the public hearing next Wednesday night. While he did not have the figures, he ventured the statement that the passes issued were not one-half of 1 per cent of the passenger traffic.

Senator Anthony moved that consideration of the bill be postponed. Senator Ruford, who seconded the motion, said that stock shippers down in his country were unanimous in a demand on him to secure legislation requiring railroads to furnish round trip transportation with each car of stock. The measure was deferred until the public meeting January 28.

Senate Committee on Judiciary, by a vote of 5 to 3, reported unfavorably on Senator Cooper's bill empowering the Attorney General to file quo warranto proceedings against local officials who are derelict in enforcing the law. This is a measure commended by Governor Folk in his message to the General Assembly. The adverse report of the committee practically means the doom of the bill in the Senate. The Senators who voted in favor of it were: Avery, of Lincoln; Cooper and Gilmore, of Kansas City. Those who voted against it were: Fields, of Linn; McAllister, of Monroe; McDavid, of Green; Mayer, of St. Joseph; Major, of Howard; Kammmerer, of St. Louis, and Hudson, of Livingston.

Senator Wornall offered a bill in the Senate leaving it optional with the jury in capital punishment trials as to whether the convicted party is sentenced to be hanged or imprisoned in the Penitentiary for life.

This measure has been before the Legislature several times in one shape or another, and has always received considerable support but never enough to pass both houses.

The argument against such a change in the law is that juries would invariably send the convicted person to the prison, and a knowledge of this fact on the part of the people would lead to mob violence in instances where exasperating crimes had been committed.

The first move on the part of the Legislature in favor of good roads was made by the Senate Committee on Constitutional Amendments in reporting favorably an amendment to the Constitution offered by Senator Fields of Linn. It provides for a levy of 25 cents on the \$100 valuation for the building of roads and bridges. Cities and Counties may vote upon this tax, very much as local option on the granting of dramsop license is now voted upon.

Senator Dowell introduced a bill making provision for working convicts in the penitentiary on the public roads of the state. He applies features of the law now in force in the state of Arkansas. Under his bill the board of inspectors of the state prison will be requested to supply to each county in the state making application for the same, not to exceed fifty convicts each year, who shall be employed on the roads and bridges of the county under the direction and discipline of the sheriff of the county and his deputies. The county must be at the expense of transporting the convicts to and from the penitentiary and must make provision for caring for them suitably and the men are not to be supplied until the inspectors are satisfied that this provision has been made.

The special committee sent to St. James to investigate the stories concerning the management of the federal soldiers' home there and the dishonesty charged against some of the former administrators, reported to the house Monday. The report declared there was direct evidence both for and against the late superintendent, but that it was made clear his resignation was not demanded upon political grounds. It also stated that the home had been and was being well conducted. The committee was discharged.

State Happenings.

A Great Sleet Storm.

St. Louis.—The worst sleet storm in years extended across the state from east to west, forming a belt about 100 miles wide on equal sides of the Missouri river. It is feared fruit has been injured. Many valuable orchards were damaged by trees being broken. Streets all over St. Louis were littered with poles, branches of trees and wires. It was several days before things were straightened out. Communication with the outside world was almost cut off for several hours. The fire alarm system collapsed, and 25 fire houses were cut off. Firemen were stationed at telephones (wires under ground) and when alarms came in would run to the houses.

Got Thousand With a Brick.

St. Joseph.—A robber, equipped only with a brick for the foray, smashed a large plate-glass window of the C. & T. Burnett jewelry store at 8 o'clock at night, seized a tray of diamond rings and escaped. Clerks and pedestrians were attracted by the crashing of glass and saw a tall young man without mask wield a brick, and when an opening was effected, quickly push his hand into the window, and picking up \$1,000 worth of diamonds, sauntered off. Clerks in the store gave chase, but he escaped.

Francis Gives Diaz a Medal.

City of Mexico.—At the Arbeau theater, David R. Francis, of Missouri, accompanied by four directors of the St. Louis Louisiana Purchase exposition, presented to President Diaz a gold medal in recognition of his service. President Diaz then presented medals to exhibitors. A large throng witnessed the ceremony and recipients were loudly cheered.

Woman Burned to Death.

St. Louis.—Mrs. Martha Krout, aged 65, of 3701 Bernard street, burned to death in her bedroom, in the presence of her helpless husband, who is paralyzed. Her blind daughter heard her scream, and feeling her way to the room of her brother she aroused him, but he found his mother burned to a crisp. An exploding lamp was the cause.

Warm in the Ozark Country.

Springfield.—Fruit growers in the Ozarks are alarmed. The unseasonably warm weather has swelled the buds, and in many places peach and plum trees are in bloom. Roses bloom in the yards on the sunny sides of the hills. The pastures are green, and stock has been turned on.

Acquitted of Stealing Cowcatcher.

St. Louis.—James Johnson, a negro, was acquitted in the circuit court of stealing a cowcatcher. It was found in his wagon, but Johnson said some one put it in there. The cowcatcher was taken from an engine in the railroad yards.

A Mother Embraces the Governor.

Jefferson City.—Mrs. Vina Evans, 169 Dorcas street, St. Louis, an elderly woman, embraced the governor and called upon him all the choicest blessings of life when he granted to her son a commutation which released him from the penitentiary.

To Form a Fair Circuit.

Centralia.—The North Central Fair association will hold its annual meeting in this city to organize a fair circuit, Marshall, Higginsville, Moberly, Sedalia, Columbia, Mexico, Bowling Green and Centralia being represented.

Found Dead on the Track.

Lexington.—The body of J. R. McDonald, a Missouri Pacific employe, was found on the track of the river route of the Missouri Pacific seven miles east of Lexington. McDonald was about 35 years old and had lived in Cordier and Higginsville for a number of years.

Bad Fire at Linn Creek.

Linn Creek.—The general stores of F. Hooker and J. W. Jeffries and a dwelling house owned by T. H. E. Moulder and occupied by his sons, Collector Fred Moulder and Dr. G. A. Moulder, burned. Loss, \$18,000.

Two Men Electrocuted.

St. Louis.—Sidney Murphy, a teamster, 21, and John O'Keefe, 30, were electrocuted by picking up live wires knocked down by sleet. Murphy was killed instantly, while O'Keefe was held by the wires ten minutes, and died on the way to the hospital.

Crippled One Hundred Factories.

St. Louis.—Fire wrecked the interior of the power plant of the Laclede Gas Light Co. at Levee and Mound street. This crippled fully 100 factories that secured their power from the plant. Loss, \$300,000.

Mrs. Minnie Grunewald.

St. Charles.—Mrs. Minnie Grunewald, aged 56, died at her home in this city. She leaves five grown children.

Misstep Causes Death.

St. Louis.—Herman Busch, 27 years old, a switchman, made a misstep, fell under an engine, and was instantly killed.

Correspondent Assaulted.

Springfield.—V. B. Rucker, a newspaper correspondent in this city, was brutally assaulted by two men a few days ago.

UNFAIR PROSPERITY

FARMERS AND WAGE EARNERS NOT GETTING THEIR SHARE.

Figures Show That Protected Trusts and Corporations Have Forced Prices for Cost of Living Far Above Increased Wages Paid

We are all impressed with the prosperity that the great business interests of the country are enjoying, but somehow many of us feel that we are not getting our share. There is no disputing the prosperity of the few, but there is still stronger evidence that many farmers and wage earners are not getting just what should be coming to them. The price of farm products, with the exception of wheat, has increased, wages of workmen have advanced, and yet the greatest economy is not able to equalize the greatly increased outgo. The "figures" of Dun and Bradstreet show that the price of all commodities has risen on an average over 50 per cent. since 1896, but the statistics of the average wages paid indicate an increase of only about 20 per cent. during the same period.

The census figures show there are about 30,000,000 people in this country working for wages, receiving an average of about \$500 each per year, so the total wages paid amount to \$15,000,000,000. Deducting 20 per cent. would give in 1896 for the same number of wage earners \$12,000,000,000. But as the cost of living is now 50 per cent. more than in 1896, and it cost all the wage earners earned in 1896 to live, it must now cost them \$22,500,000,000, or \$900 each per year to buy the same amount of goods and pay the increased rent and other expenses of living that it did in 1896. Yet the evidence shows that the wages paid are but 20 per cent. higher, or \$720 per year—in all \$18,000,000,000. So the difference between what the wage earners of the country now receive and what they should receive if they fully participated in the prosperity, is \$4,500,000,000. This amount represents approximately what the protected trusts, combines and corporations are receiving in profits over and above the average profits the producers and manufacturers were getting in 1896. Surely the trusts are prosperous, and their prosperity is indisputable, for four and a half billion dollars are diverted by the Republican system of protection into the remorseless maw of the corporation magnates. But how about the balance of us that are forced by these tariff fostered trust high prices to pay the extra \$4,500,000,000 at \$150 each for the 30,000,000 workers?

No wonder there is unrest and that all who earn salaries and wages are demanding more pay, but as the cost of living is advancing at the rate of five per cent. annually it would seem that wages and salaries will never catch up with the cost of living.

As a political proposition the voters must remember that in 1896 and for three years previous the Democratic tariff rates were quite high, averaging 38.68 per cent. ad valorem, whereas under the present law the rates exceed 50 per cent., or over 20 per cent. higher. That enormous increase fostered the formation of trusts and combines, which very naturally, finding they had a monopoly, have increased prices until they now exceed 50 per cent. of what they were in 1896 under the lower tariff rates. As everyone is compelled to pay these increased prices it is not the reasonable and only way to reduce prices to so revise the tariff that, at least, these high prices may not become higher, which are now increasing at the rate of five per cent. every year?

The Republicans say: "No, we will stand pat and allow the present trust prosperity to continue, and hope that wages will advance to a par with prices," which under the present system experience shows they will not do. The Democrats declare for tariff revision, so that there will be competition with the trusts and force them to reduce the price of their products to a reasonable extent. The voters when they elect the next president and congress must decide between these two propositions.

Freedom of the Press.

New York Republicans are preparing a bill for the coming legislature to compel editors "to print daily, in a conspicuous place, the name of the responsible owner, and also the name of the editor responsible for utterances in the editorial and news columns." If the corrupt Republican ringsters think they can stop honest newspapers from denouncing and exposing their corrupt political doings by that kind of a bluff, they are certainly mistaken. Honest politicians are but rarely attacked in the newspapers, and if they are, unjustly, they always find defenders, even from editors who are political opponents. It is the galled jacks who wince and the editors and publishers of newspapers would be delinquent in their duty if they did not tell the truth about them. This back fire against the newspapers may be aimed at the great dailies or the country press, but the latter very generally give the names of both publishers and editors, and in any event it is common knowledge in the community who is the owner, publisher and editor. This Republican effort to try and restrict the activity of the press has always failed and will again, for the right of free speech, which includes freedom of the press, is one of our cherished liberties.

1,000 ARE KILLED IN JAMAICA EARTHQUAKE

90,000 Homeless People—Misery on All Sides Is Indescribable—Dead Are Buried Underneath the Smouldering Ruins.

St. Thomas, D. W. I.—Latest reports received here from Jamaica say it is estimated that 1,000 persons have been killed by the earthquake and fire and that 90,000 persons are homeless. The damage to Kingston alone is placed at fully \$10,000,000.

Later advices received from Jamaica declare that all people have been warned to keep away from Kingston. The stretch is described as awful.

Money is useless. The banks have been burned, but the vaults are supposed to be safe.

The misery on all sides is indescribable.

Rich and poor alike are homeless.

Provisions of all kinds are urgently needed.

It is impossible to say where anybody can be found.

PROMPT TO ACT.

Navy Department Responds to the Cry for Bread.

Washington, D. C.—Official news of the disaster at Kingston, Jamaica, reached Washington slowly; in fact, the first report did not come to hand until well along in the afternoon, when a dispatch was received at the state department dated: "Jamaica, 3:31 p. m., Jan. 16," and signed "American Consul," stating that Kingston had been destroyed, and hundreds of lives lost, and that food was badly wanted. The dispatch was regarded as warranting the taking of instant measures of relief. Indeed the navy department has been in advance in this matter, for through Capt. Beehler, the officer in charge of the naval station at Key West, wireless communication was early established between the navy department and Admiral Evans, commanding the Atlantic fleet at Guantanamo, Cuba, and when Secretary Root later indicated the desirability of sending warships at once to the distressed island, it turned out that Admiral Evans had anticipated the direction, and had started on a torpedo boat destroyer, the swiftest vessel in the American fleet, for Kingston, ordering two of the slower battleships to follow as soon as they could.

Acted First, Authority Later.

The appeal for food supplies directed attention to the fact that under ordinary conditions none of the government supplies could be used for outside relief save by special authority of congress. That fact, however, did not prevent Secretary Metcalf from ordering two supply ships with full cargoes of food at once to Jamaica, leaving for tomorrow the question as to how the supplies are to be given to the needy inhabitants.

There are stores of food at San Juan, P. R., and Havana that might be used for emergencies, leaving the department to draw later on the large stocks at New York.

STREET SCENE IN KINGSTON, J. MAICA.



East Street, Looking Toward the Water Front. This Section Was Completely Devastated by the Earthquake and Fire.

Sir James Fergusson, vice chairman of the Royal Mail Steamship Co., is among the killed.

The dead are being buried under smoldering ruins.

The mercantile community suffered most severely, warehouses falling upon them.

Many professional men are dead or injured.

The negroes are looting.

Ghastly scenes are being witnessed.

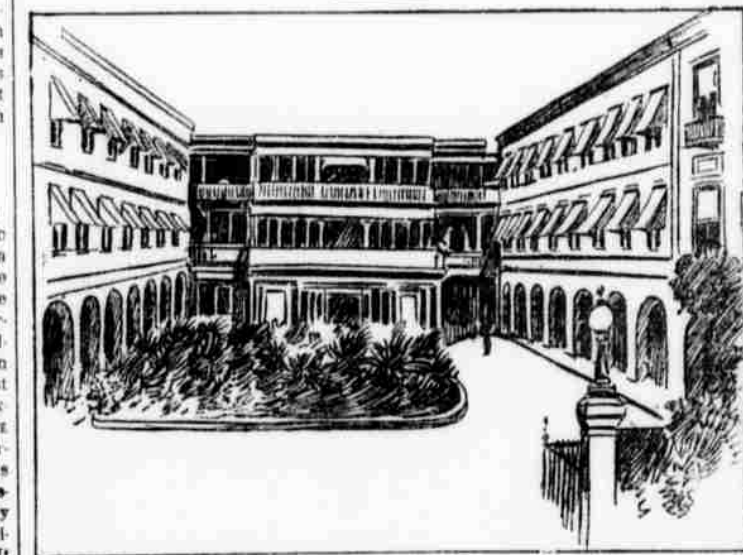
All the ships have been destroyed, and all the buildings in and around Kingston are in ruins. Very few of them are safe to live in.

The governor and his party are safe.

It is reported that an extinct volcano in the parish of Portland is showing signs of activity, but this has not been verified.

No news has yet been received from other parts of the island of Jamaica, communication being very difficult.

MYRTLE BANK HOTEL.



One of the Principal Buildings at Kingston, Jamaica, Completely Destroyed by the Earthquake and Ensuing Fire.

WHAT LONDON HEARS.

London, Eng.—A message has been received from Sir Alfred Jones which confirms the worst fears. This message is addressed to Elder, Dempster & Co., and is as follows: "Kingston was overwhelmed by an earthquake Monday afternoon at 3:30. All the houses within a radius of 10 miles have been damaged, and almost every house in the city is destroyed. Fire broke out after the earthquake, and completed the work of destruction. The public officers and hospitals are in ruins."

A City of 50,000 People.

The city is one of low lying buildings, clustered along the shores of one of the finest and most securely land locked harbors in the West Indies. The population, which numbers 50,000, is largely made up of native blacks.

Many steamers carrying tourists to Jamaica were en route to the island when the earthquake occurred, but it so happens that, according to schedules, none of the ships from New York or Boston was in Kingston harbor Monday afternoon.